

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/809,563

Examiner

PETER POLTORAK

Applicant(s)

YANTZI, DONALD J.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Appeal Brief filed on 11/14/08 and a telephonic communication on 8/20/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 26-30.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

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| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>Intrv on 8/28/09</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to Applicant's Appeal Brief filed on 11/14/08 and a telephonic communication on 8/28/09.

Examiner Amendment

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

The following changes were authorized by Antony Ng in a telephone interview on 8/20/09.

Please amend claims 1 and 26 as follows:

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1. A method of managing password for a plurality of software resources accessible by a user, said method comprising:

- providing a password registry for storing passwords within a workstation;
- allowing each of a plurality of software resources to register its password in said password registry via a respective one of a plurality of front-end processes within said workstation, wherein each said password is encrypted by said respective front-end process before being stored in said password registry;

in response to an access request to one of said software resources via a corresponding one of said front-end processes, determining if an encrypted password associated with said requested software resource is stored in said password registry;

in a determination that said encrypted password associated within said requested software resource is stored in said password registry, sending said encrypted password from said password registry to said corresponding front-end process ~~for decryption in order to permit said access request, said~~ corresponding front-end process decrypting the encrypted password and permitting said access request based on the decrypted password by the front-end process; and

in a determination that said encrypted password associated within said requested software resource is not stored in said password registry, notifying said front-end process ~~to prompt~~ resulting in prompting for a password from a user.

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26. A computer readable storage medium having computer program product for managing passwords for a plurality of software resources accessible by a user, said computer readable medium comprising:

computer program code for providing a password registry for storing passwords within a workstation;

computer program code for allowing each of a plurality of software resources to register its password in said password registry via a respective one of a plurality of front-end processes within said workstation, wherein each said password is encrypted by said respective front-end process before being stored in said password registry;

computer program code for, in response to an access request to one of said software resources via a corresponding one of said front-end processes, determining if an encrypted password associated with said requested software resource is stored in said password registry;

computer program code for, in a determination that said encrypted password associated within said requested software resource is stored in said password registry, sending said encrypted password from said password registry to said corresponding front-end process ~~for decryption in order to permit said access request~~, said corresponding front-end process decrypting the encrypted password and permitting said access request based on the decrypted password by the front-end process; and

computer program code for, in a determination that said encrypted password associated within said requested software resource is not stored in said password registry, notifying said front-end process ~~to prompt~~ resulting in prompting for a password from a user.

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Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Applicant's arguments articulating the differences between the prior art and applicant's invention as indicated in applicant's arguments presented in Appeal Brief filed on 11/14/08 (in particular pg. 5-6) and supported by the amended claimed language (and the original specification, see pg. 10 lines 5-7, for example) were reconsidered and found persuasive.

An additional search revealed other relevant prior art: Inala (USPUB 2001/0000537) discloses managing various user passwords, Chandra (USPUB 2002/0138582) teaches the use of variety of processes in a collaboration environment while utilizing a personal information manager, Lewis (USPUB 2003/0028813) relates to a password generator and password encryptor, Hsieh (USPUB 2003/0079147) and Jamieson (USPUB 2005/005094) talks about a single sign-on system enabling a user access to a variety of system resources via a single server (Jamieson explicitly talks about encryption/reencryption of credentials), Berstis (USPN 7188240) relates to a system using encrypted memory location and storing passwords, and Rojewski (USPN 7581245) discusses evaluating computer system passwords.

However, neither the newly discovered or previously considered prior art, anticipates or fairly suggests the limitation of applicant's independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. In particular, none of the references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest providing a plurality of front-end processes on a workstation, each of said front-end processes corresponding to a type

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of system resources accessible by a user via said workstation, generating an encrypted password for each of said types of system resources from encrypting a corresponding unencrypted password provided by a user, storing said encrypted passwords in a password registry within said workstation in response to an access request to one of said system resources via a corresponding one of said front-end processes, retrieving from said password register an encrypted password corresponding to said requested system resource and passing said retrieved password from said password registry to said corresponding front-end process for decryption in order to permit said access request, as required by the independent claim 1 and 26.

As a result the claims 1-5 and 26-30 are considered to be in condition for allowance as being novel and non-obvious over prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter Poltorak whose telephone number is (571) 272-3840. The examiner can normally be reached from Monday through Thursday from 9:00 until 5:00, and every other Friday from 9:00 until 5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kambiz Zand can be reached on (571) 272-3811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

/Peter Poltorak/

Examiner, Art Unit 2434

/Michael J Simitoski/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2439